

HOUSE RESOLUTION 7 of the Second Extraordinary Session  
By Ferguson

A RESOLUTION to commend Mr. Elvin Marcellus Parish for his honorable and astute service to the City of Kingston and to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated their professional careers and personal excellence to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Elvin Marcellus Parish is one such person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all of his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, born the oldest of seven children to Bunk and Millie Ann Parish of Weakley County, "Cellus," his brother, L.D., and his sisters, Ole Mae, Edith, Dulcie, Irene, and Leanne, moved from Sharon to Mississippi, and then later moved back to West Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Calhoun County Agricultural Institute, Cellus began employment with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1936, which employment brought him to Kingston in 1937; Except for brief stints in Copper Hill, and in Flint, Michigan, the E.M. Parish family has lived in and around Kingston for over sixty years; and

WHEREAS, Cellus is a highly respected member of the Kingston community; and

WHEREAS, Cellus began working as the bookkeeper for the Co-op in 1950, and then moved on to work in the gravel quarries with the Rogers Group in 1955. From 1957-80, Cellus enjoyed a 23-year career with Roane Electric, where he earned the nickname "Speedy" for his reputed slow driving; and

WHEREAS, for eight years following his retirement, Cellus mowed lawns around Kingston. In 1986, Cellus was hired by the City of Kingston to work at the Community Center. At the age of 84, he is still adroitly working as a valued city employee; and

WHEREAS, Cellus has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Cellus's outstanding success as a public servant is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Cellus is a an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Parish demonstrates his devout religious faith as a member of the Victory Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, E.M. Parish has been fortunate to share love and companionship with both his late wife and mother of their five children, Rose Marie Davis Parish, and his current wife, Ruth Wright Parish. Mr. Cellus Parish is also appreciative of the love and support that he receives from his five children, Sybil, Eddie, Freddie, Kay, and Faye, and his grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Elvin Marcellus Parish is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby commend Mr. Elvin Marcellus Parish for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Kingston, Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.